

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A lead, comprising:
a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~and the lead body having at least one expansion section;~~

~~at least one a plurality of connectors positioned proximate the proximal end; at least one a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end; and at least one a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body and with each conductor electrically connecting the at least one connector and the with at least one electrode; and~~

~~a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the plurality of connectors and the plurality of electrodes, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;~~

~~wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of connectors and plurality of electrodes to be increased.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with Claim [[3]] 1 wherein the diameter of the ~~each~~ expansion section is at least about two times greater than a diameter of the ~~an~~ adjacent portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~the lead body comprises a plurality of expansion sections and two adjacent expansion sections are spaced apart less than one inch.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the plurality of expansion sections forms an form respective expansion rings around the lead body.

7. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with Claim 6 wherein the longitudinal paths of the plurality of conductors within the plurality of expansion sections at least one conductor is substantially eonformal conform to the shape of the respective expansion rings within the expansion ring.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the each expansion section is bubble-shaped.

11-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A system for stimulating a portion of a body, the system comprising:

a source for generating a stimulus; and

an implantable lead for receiving the stimulus from the source, the implantable lead comprising,

a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~and the lead body having at least one expanding section,~~

~~at least one a plurality of connectors positioned proximate the proximal end,~~

~~at least one a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end, and~~

~~at least one a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body and with each conductor electrically connecting the at least one connector and the with at least one electrode; and~~

a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the plurality of connectors and the plurality of electrodes, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;

wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of connectors and plurality of electrodes to be increased.

23. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 further comprising:

a controller operable for communicating with the source and controlling the source.

24. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein the source comprises an RF receiver.

25. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein the source comprises an implantable pulse generator.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) The system in accordance with claim 22 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.

28. (New) The lead in accordance with claim 1 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.

29. (New) A lead, comprising:

a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end;

a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end;

a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body with each conductor electrically connecting to at least one electrode; and

a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the distal and proximal ends, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;

wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of electrodes and the proximal end to be increased.

30. (New) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the diameter of each expansion section is at least about two times greater than a diameter of an adjacent portion.

31. (New) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein adjacent expansion sections are spaced apart less than one inch.

32. (New) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the plurality of expansion sections form respective expansion rings around the lead body.

33. (New) The lead in accordance with Claim 32 wherein the longitudinal paths of the plurality of conductors within the plurality of expansion sections substantially conform to the shape of the respective expansion rings.

34. (New) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein each expansion section is bubble-shaped.

35. (New) The lead in accordance with claim 29 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.